

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1. (currently amended) A method for distributing a viscous liquid over a surface of a substrate, comprising the steps:

- placing a substrate essentially horizontal on a support,
- applying a viscous liquid onto a surface of said substrate,
- rotating the substrate to distribute the liquid radially outwards, and
- conditioning the liquid on the substrate thermally, to influence its viscosity

locally by creating a locally selective temperature gradient;

said thermal conditioning being effected by a thermal source of heat or cold placed above the surface of the substrate ~~and directing a stream of heated or cooled gas to the substrate.~~

2. (canceled)

3. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~the thermal conditioning is being effected by~~ said thermal source comprises a stream of heated or cooled gas.

4. (currently amended) A method according to claim 1, wherein ~~the thermal conditioning is being effected by~~ said thermal source comprises a source of electromagnetic radiation.

5. (original) A method according to claim 4, wherein the source of radiation is a lamp with essentially visible spectra or an IR radiator.

6. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1, wherein the thermal source comprises at least two sub sources.

7. (original) A method according to claim 6, wherein the sub-sources are directed

to different positions with regard to the radius on the substrate.

8. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said substrate is supported on a rotatable support, with dispensing means for said liquid provided above the substrate surface and fastening means for at least one thermal source placed above the substrate.

9. (previously presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein the fastening means comprise a cover, extending over at least a part of the support.

10. (previously presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein the fastening means comprise an arm extending over at least a portion of the support.

11. (currently amended) A method according to claim 8, wherein the thermal source comprises ~~one of~~ at least one of a source of radiation, ~~a lamp, an IR radiator,~~ and a stream of hot or cool gas.

12. (previously presented) A method according to claim 8, wherein the dispensing means are mechanically affixed to the fastening means.

13. (currently amended) A method according to claim ~~[[8]]~~ 10, wherein the fastening means are movable with respect to substrate and support in order to remove the arm at least during loading and unloading of the substrate.

14. (canceled)